

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-12 and add new claims 13-32, as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-12 (canceled)

13. (New) A process for monitoring the temperature in a refrigerator, comprising:
forming a unit from a temperature sensitive element and a thermal buffer liquid in
a substantially transparent container;
placing the unit container at a site to be monitored inside the refrigerator; and
controlling the temperature detected by said temperature sensitive element by
visually observing a temperature dependent variable property of said temperature
sensitive element.

14. (New) The process according to claim 13, including selecting a quantity of said
thermal buffer liquid such that temperature equalization of said unit and said refrigerator
site requires at least about one hour.

15. (New) The process according to claim 13, including forming said thermal buffer
liquid from water.

16. (New) The process according to claim 13, including forming said temperature
dependent variable property of said temperature sensitive element without using any
external energy supply.

17. (New) A unit for monitoring the temperature in a refrigerator, comprising:
a container;
a thermal buffer liquid in said container; and
a temperature sensitive element in thermal contact with said buffer liquid.

18. (New) The unit according to claim 17, including said container having a capacity
for said buffer liquid in the range of about fifty (50) to two hundred and fifty (250) cubic
centimeters.

19. (New) The unit according to claim 17, including said temperature sensitive element is located and can swim in said buffer liquid.
20. (New) The unit according to claim 17, including said temperature sensitive element has different substantially discrete values of a property which can be visually observed of at least one of above or below a temperature limit to be monitored.
21. (New) The unit according to claim 20, including said property changes its value in a temperature range of about seven (7) and (10) degrees Celsius above said temperature limit.
22. (New) The unit according to claim 20, including said property is the color of at least one portion of said temperature sensitive element.
23. (New) The unit according to claim 22, including said temperature sensitive element has a plurality of separate portions with different properties.
24. (New) The unit according to claim 23, including said separate portions with different properties are separate colors with different temperature limits for said property changes.
25. (New) The unit according to claim 19, including said temperature sensitive element is lighter than said buffer liquid and includes at least one of a ballast or tether to a bottom of said container to maintain said temperature sensitive element immersed in said buffer liquid.
26. (New) The unit according to claim 19, including said temperature sensitive element is heavier than said buffer liquid and includes at least one float in said container connected to said temperature sensitive element to maintain said temperature sensitive element immersed in said buffer liquid.

27. (New) A temperature sensitive element for a unit for monitoring the temperature in a refrigerator, the unit including a container with a thermal buffer liquid in said container, said temperature sensitive element:

a body for thermal contact with the buffer liquid;

said body immersed to swim in said buffer liquid; and

said body has different substantially discrete values of a property which can be visually observed of at least one of above or below a temperature limit to be monitored.

28. (New) The temperature sensitive element according to claim 27, including said property is the color of at least one portion of said body.

29. (New) The temperature sensitive element according to claim 28, including said body has a plurality of separate portions with different properties.

30. (New) The temperature sensitive element according to claim 29, including said separate portions with different properties are separate colors with different temperature limits for said property changes.

31. (New) The temperature sensitive element according to claim 27, including said body is in the form of a fish.

32. (New) The temperature sensitive element according to claim 27, including said body is one of lighter than said buffer liquid and includes at least one of a ballast or tether to a bottom of said container to maintain said body immersed in said buffer liquid and heavier than said buffer liquid and includes at least one float in said container connected to said body to maintain said body immersed in said buffer liquid.